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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

**24-HOUR REPORT****14 MARCH 2018**

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**(U) CALIFORNIA****(U) Daly City – Man Arrested In Bomb Threat That Closed SFO BART Station**

(U) A man was arrested and placed under psychiatric evaluation Monday night on suspicion of using his cellphone to make bomb threats while riding a BART train through San Francisco, authorities said Tuesday. His name has not been released. After the man was detained at the Daly City station, both the train he had been on and the San Francisco International Airport station where it had later stopped were evacuated for a time after an unattended backpack was found on the train. The incident began when the Alameda County Sheriff's Office reported to BART authorities that a man was making bomb threats via his cellphone on social media. BART police said there were no direct threats made toward the BART system but it was not disclosed who or what were the target of the threats.

SOURCE: 14 March 2018, [Mercury News](#)

**(U) Nevada City – Task Force Seizes \$1 Million Worth of Marijuana at Residence**

(U) A Nevada City man was arrested yesterday after law enforcement agents seized an estimated \$1 million worth of marijuana during a search of property in Nevada County. Members of the Nevada County Sheriff's Office's Narcotics Task Force assisted the Drug Enforcement Administration in executing a federal search warrant in the Nevada City area. Deputies and federal agents located approximately 1,285 pounds of marijuana in black tote boxes and about 576 marijuana plants under cultivation.

SOURCE: 13 March 2018, [Sacramento Bee](#)

**(U) Sacramento – Grenade Launchers, Guns Seized Through Unique California Program**

(U) State officials announced yesterday the recovery of an array of illegally owned weapons — including three grenade launchers. Attorney General Xavier Becerra said they had made arrests and confiscated multiple weapons in seven cases throughout the state dating back to 28 February. Those arrested were identified primarily through the Armed and Prohibited Persons System (APPS) program, an automated database aimed at helping authorities disarm people who are convicted for a felony, identified as having certain mental illnesses, or are otherwise deemed to be dangerous.

SOURCE: 14 March 2018, [Mercury News](#)

**(U) NATIONAL****(U) Illinois – Three Men Charged With Minnesota Mosque Bombing**

(U) Champaign – Three men from a rural Illinois community were arrested yesterday and charged in the 2017 bombing of a mosque outside Minneapolis and the attempted bombing of an Illinois abortion clinic. Michael Mcwhorter, 29, Joe Morris, 22, and Michael B. Hari, 47, were accused of carrying out a pipe bomb attack on the Dar al-Farooq Islamic Center in Bloomington, Minnesota, on 5 August 2017 that damaged the building but caused no injuries. The three suspects were arrested by FBI agents in Illinois and also charged with possession of assault rifles, which are classified as machine guns, and an attempted bombing of the Women's Health Practice in Champaign, Illinois on 7 November 2017.

SOURCE: 13 March 2018, [Reuters](#)

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**(U) New York – American Sentenced to 45 Years in Prison for Role in Al-Qa’ida Bomb Attack**

(U) Brooklyn – A US citizen was sentenced to 45 years in prison yesterday for supporting the militant group al-Qa’ida and helping to prepare a 2009 car bomb attack on a US military base in Afghanistan, less than the life sentence sought by prosecutors. Muhanad Mahmoud Al Farekh, 32, was sentenced by US District Judge Brian Cogan in Brooklyn federal court. Al Farekh was found guilty by a jury in September of the charges of conspiring to murder Americans, using a weapon of mass destruction and supporting a foreign terrorist organization.

SOURCE: 13 March 2018, [Reuters](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Afghanistan – Attack on Checkpoint Kills 10**

(U) Farah – Insurgents attacked a security checkpoint in western Afghanistan today, killing at least 10 security forces, officials said. No one immediately claimed the attack, but a series of assaults by the Taliban in Farah province over the past week have killed at least 38 security forces, while another five were captured and several were wounded. A member of the Farah provincial council said four of those killed in today’s attack were from the intelligence service and six were police.

SOURCE: 14 March 2018, [The Washington Post](#)

**(U) England – United Kingdom Expels 23 Russian Diplomats over Spy Poisoning**

(U) London – The United Kingdom announced today it will expel 23 Russian diplomats—the biggest such expulsion since the Cold War—and break off high-level contacts with the Kremlin over the nerve-agent attack on a former spy and his daughter in an English town. Prime Minister Theresa May told lawmakers that the 23 diplomats, who have been identified as undeclared intelligence officers, have a week to leave. She announced a range of economic and diplomatic measures, including the suspension of high-level bilateral contacts with Russia. An invitation for Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov to visit the United Kingdom has been canceled, and May said British ministers and royals will not attend the soccer World Cup in Russia this summer. May also said the United Kingdom would clamp down on murky Russian money and strengthen its powers to impose sanctions on abusers of human rights.

SOURCE: 14 March 2018, [Associated Press](#)

**(U) France – Authorities Detain Five People in Counterterrorism Probe**

(U) Paris – French counterterrorism police have detained five people suspected of helping jihadis who left France to join the battlefields of Syria and Iraq. Four men and one woman were arrested yesterday in the southeastern Iserre region on suspicion of taking part in a criminal terrorist association and of providing financial support to a terrorist undertaking. Investigators believe that the five are linked to jihadis in combat zones in Syria and Iraq and are suspected of giving them money.

SOURCE: 13 March 2018, [The Washington Post](#)

**(U) Malaysia – Authorities Arrest More Than 200 People on Suspicion of Terrorist Recruiting**

(U) Kuala Lumpur – Malaysia arrested a total of 249 local and foreign individuals suspected of recruiting members for terrorism through social media so far Deputy Home Minister Masir Kujat said yesterday. Masir said 240 of them carried out their modus operandi through Facebook, eight through Twitter and another one through Instagram. He said on Facebook, some 3,871 accounts were monitored, while 800 accounts were blocked. On Twitter, 76 individuals were monitored and nine accounts blocked, while on Instagram, 72 individuals are being monitored. He added that, to date, 19 individuals, including a foreigner, was currently undergoing a de-radicalization program under the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2015.

SOURCE: 13 March 2018, [Straits Times](#)

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